AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-43. (Canceled).

44. (New) A clamp assembly for repairing a bone defect in a cranium and operable to fix a bone plate relative the surrounding cranium, the clamp assembly comprising:

a cap defining a substantially planar engaging end face and having a gripping feature formed on the end face;

a base opposing the engaging end of the cap and having a central recess, the central recess defining a collar at an aperture formed in the base; and

a post having an elongate body and an engaging portion defined on a terminal end that engages the collar and is positioned in the central recess of the base, the post rotatably attached to the base and defining threads that receive a corresponding mating portion of the cap, the post further including a torque-limiting feature, the post engaging the cap and base to fasten the cap and base relative one another and secure at least one of the bone plate and cranium between the cap and the base.

45. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 44, further comprising an applier operable to rotate the post to position the cap relative to the base in a fastening position.

46. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 45, wherein the applier is removable from the post while leaving the cap and base interconnected.

47. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 45, wherein the applier includes a body having a keyed bore.

48. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 47, wherein the post includes a key for engaging the keyed bore of the applier.

49. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 44, wherein the threads are formed along substantially the entire length of the post.

50. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 44, wherein the torque-limiting feature prevents over tightening of the cap relative to the base.

51. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 45, wherein the post further includes a key disposed at a distal end of the elongate body.

52. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 51, wherein the key is operable to matingly engage the applier.

53. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 51 wherein the torque-limiting feature is disposed at a junction between the elongate body and the key.

54. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 44, wherein at least one of the cap, base and post includes non-resorbable, biocompatible material.

55. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 54, wherein the cap, base and post include non-resorbable, biocompatible material.

56. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 54, wherein the non-resorbable, biocompatible material is titanium.

57. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 44 wherein the post terminates in the base.

58. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 44 wherein the cap and the base define substantially equivalent diameters.

59. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 44 wherein the engaging portion of the post defines an enlarged head.

60. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 59 wherein the base defines slots at the periphery that facilitate deflection of the base during insertion of the head into the aperture.

61. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 44 wherein the gripping feature comprises a plurality of teeth.

62. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 44 wherein the base defines a first end and a second end, the first end opposing the engaging end of the cap, wherein the collar is located at an offset position between the first and second ends.

63. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 62 wherein the engaging portion defines a head and wherein the head nests on the collar at a position wholly contained between the first and second ends of the base.

64. (New) A clamp assembly for repairing a bone defect in a cranium and operable to fix a bone plate relative the surrounding cranium, the clamp assembly comprising:

a cap defining a first engaging structure;

a base opposing the cap and defining an aperture; and

a post coupled to the base and having an enlarged head defining a channel that receives a periphery of the aperture of the base, the channel retaining the base at the enlarged head, the post defining a second engaging structure, the first engaging structure mating with the second engaging structure to locate the cap at a desired location along the post and secure at least one of the bone plate and cranium between the cap and the base, the post further including a torque-limiting feature.

65. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 64 wherein the second engaging structure includes threads.

66. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 65 wherein the threads are formed along substantially an entire length of the post.

67. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 65 wherein the threads are defined along an outboard dimension of the post.

68. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 64 wherein the torque-limiting feature defines a D-shaped cross section.

69. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 64 wherein the torque-limiting feature includes a first portion having an outer radial surface that is substantially equivalent with an outer radius of a remainder of the post and a second portion defining a plane.

70. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 64 wherein the base defines slots at the periphery that facilitate deflection of the base during insertion of the head into the aperture.

71. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 64 wherein the base and the cap are both substantially disk shaped.

72. (New) The clamp assembly of claim 71 wherein a first portion of the enlarged head extends proud from the base at the aperture in a direction toward the cap and wherein a second portion of the enlarged head extends proud from the base at the aperture in a direction away from the cap.